

HardisonInk.com

Sheriff Bobby McCallum brings *Harmony* in the *Streets* to Levy County

Levy County Sheriff's
Office Community
Relations Division
Supervisor Lt. Max
Long, who leads the

School Resource Officer Program as well as performing other duties, is seen with a few of the countless children who know and love him.



Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © July 2, 2021 at 10:11 a.m.

WILLISTON – A cooperative venture with the Levy County Sheriff's Office, the Levy County Prevention Coalition and the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches known as *Harmony in the Streets* wrapped up at 3 p.m. Thursday afternoon (July 1) at Williston Elementary School.



Tameka Days, a Levy County Prevention Coalition aide who participated in the *Harmony in the Streets* program, instructs children on where to sit. There were 203 children from Joyce Bullock Elementary School and Williston Elementary School registered for the four-day camp that was held at WES. Days, as well as other LCPC members and teachers from JBES and WES, and still other

adults are among the more than 30 individuals helping the program succeed.

HardisonInk.com

Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum is seen in one of the LCSO golf carts. Among the many uses for these carts is in a program the Sheriff's Office provides to help teach young drivers about the dangers from being distracted or intoxicated while operating a vehicle.



Levy County Sheriff's Office Community Relations Division Supervisor Lt. Max Long shows Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum where some of the activities for deputies and children are planned on Thursday morning. Meanwhile, LCSO Lt. Scott Tummond speaks with some children who are seated and ready for the program to begin.

HardisonInk.com



Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum speaks to the children. In the background are (from left) LCSO Fleet Maintenance Supervisor Lee Dunn (almost hidden behind the sheriff), LCSO Cpl. Danny Griffith, LCSO Det. Joe Barrera and LCSO K-9 Deputy Alton Horne. Three of the people in the background are part of the LCSO Marine-Dive Team. The sheriff answered questions from the children, too. When he was asked about the LCSO

response to litterbugs, the sheriff said the offenders are asked to pick up the litter and they may be cited.

LCSO K-9 Sgt. Kevin Kinik tells children about how much training the dogs and their handlers must undergo to earn certification in the various forms of actions they take. Sgt. Kinik stressed the importance to always reject offers to use illegal drugs, and he let them know that even as adults continuing education is helpful to career advancement. LCSO Fleet Maintenance Supervisor Lee Dunn (in the background and on the left, and more visible in this photo) is the leader of the team that keeps the vehicles running on the land and on the water.



HardisonInk.com



Deputy Gary Garboski's partner K-9 Molly, a Labrador Retriever, investigates an area where illegal drugs may be located.



Deputy Gary Garboski's partner K-9 Molly, a Labrador Retriever, alerts her handler that illegal drugs have been detected by her extremely sensitive nose. Molly, like the other dogs, then received a reward of a dog toy for her success in the mission to find illegal drugs.

HardisonInk.com



LCSO K-9 Deputy Alton Horne holds a pair of bite pants, which are part of the bite suit, used to train K-9s as they learn to take down suspects. The children were allowed to feel the pants and see how heavy they are. Sgt. Kevin Kinik told the young audience members that the full bite suit probably weighs more than most of them individually.



K-9 Deputy Alton Horne holds up a bulletproof vest that the LCSO K-9 dogs wear. These bulletproof vests were donated to the LCSO. LCSO K-9 Sgt. Kevin Kinik holds the bite sleeve that he soon unused after showing it to the children. In training, the dogs go for the sleeve. In the field, the dogs take down the suspects, often chomping into whichever arm is holding a weapon first.

HardisonInk.com



K-9 Deputy Alton Horne and his German Shepherd K-9 Behr (bear) are seen soon after the dog is taken from the air-conditioned SUV. Here the canine is barking at an area he thinks has drugs hidden, and there were drugs hidden there for testing the dogs and their handlers. This 100-pound dog shows he has a relatively good bite range capacity and some teeth to deter a human from not cooperating with a law enforcement officer's command to surrender.



K-9 Deputy Alton Horne and his German Shepherd K-9 Behr (bear) make their way back to the SUV before driving out to a field for a demonstration on how the dog can stop a fleeing human.

HardisonInk.com



K-9 Deputy Alton Horne and his German Shepherd K-9 Behr (bear) are on the brink of launch to stop a 'suspect' (Sgt. Kevin Kinik wearing a bite sleeve).



K-9 Deputy Alton Horne and his German Shepherd K-9 Behr (bear) walk away from a successful takedown demonstration as Sgt. Kevin Kinik looks at the bite sleeve in the dog's mouth. The sergeant was not injured, and the dog was rewarded for his success.

HardisonInk.com



LCSO Sgt. Kevin Kinik is seen with his dog Zombie. Sgt. Kinik and Sgt. Lauree Allen are the leaders of the four-member LCSO K-9 Team (actually, eight-member team with the four dogs that are all law enforcement officers too).



Levy County Sheriff's Office School Resource Officer W. 'Bubba' Wells is seen near an open gate to Williston Elementary School as some other LCSO members prepare to take some vehicles out of the school property after an educational event that part of *Harmony in the Streets* day camp.

HardisonInk.com

This four-day, action-packed, fun-filled, educational four-day Camp included breakfast and lunch, games and more. It was for children from 6 to 12 years old.

Levy County Sheriff Bobby McCallum as well as the four units of the LCSO K-9 Corps, and the LCSO Marine and Dive Unit provided children with information and entertainment Thursday.

Harmony in the Streets provides day camp activities directly to local communities that may be socially and/or economically challenged. This event at WES was coordinated by Levy County Sheriff McCallum in partnership with the Levy County Prevention Coalition.

During the part of the day where the LCSO helped them learn things through hands-on experiences and demonstrations, K-9 dogs alerted to drugs and took down a man who was pretending to be a fleeing felon.

Sheriff McCallum was the chairman of the board for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches last year. He had scheduled this camp for 2020, but the global COVID-19 pandemic created too much danger for children and families to hold it then. Therefore, the camp moved to Summer 2021.

During the very informative session Thursday, the children and others learned about the four-member LCSO K-9 team of Sgt. Kevin Kinik and K-9 Zombie, a German Shepherd; Sgt. Lauree Allen and K-9 Barli, a German Shepherd and Belgian Malinois (pronounced MAL-in-wah) mix; Deputy Gary Garboski and K-9 Molly, a Labrador Retriever; and Deputy Alton Horne and K-9 Behr (pronounced "BEAR"), a German Shepherd.

Sgt. Kinik and Deputy Horne spoke to the children and provided demonstrations, as did the other two members of the teams with their dogs.

Dogs that were the most adept at locating drugs showed that skill and dogs best fit for taking down suspected fleeing felons shows their talent in that manner.



This is one of the boats of the LCSO used to help people.

HardisonInk.com



This is an airboat that, like the other boat, was able to be seen by the children as they learned about the action of the LCSO Marine and Dive Team.

The LCSO Marine and Dive Team members present for the day of fun and learning on that final day of camp were LCSO Cpl. Danny Griffith, LCSO Det. Joe Barrera and LCSO Fleet Maintenance Supervisor Lee Dunn. LCSO Public Information Officer Lt. Scott Tummond, who also was present for the program, said other members of the LCSO Marine and Dive Team were performing other duties at the time of the camp demonstrations.

These members of the LCSO protect lives and property by using boats and scuba equipment. There are occasions, too, when they must recover a body from water after a person or person drown.

All of the children participating in the final day of fun at *Harmony in the Streets* at WES on Thursday were well-mannered. More than 30 members of the Levy County Prevention Coalition, the Levy County School System and others helped assure the children enjoyed a safe and fun experience during the four days (June 28, 29 and 30, and July 1) of camp from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Among the other professional law enforcement officers helping children Thursday were LCSO Community Relations Division Supervisor Lt. Max Long and LCSO School Resource Officer W. "Bubba" Wells, who was the school resource officer at Williston Elementary School during the 2020-2021 school year. Deputy Wells anticipates being the SRO at WES again, starting in the fall.